



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON SEVEN SEVEN
NAVAL AIR STATION ATLANTA
1000 HALSEY AVE
MARIETTA GEORGIA 30060-5099

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5750

Ser N00/531

09 DEC 2001

From: Commanding Officer, Airborne Early Warning Squadron 77
To: Director, Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command History
(2) CY00 Noel Davis Trophy Nomination
(3) Diskette — *no disk with ltr. Ray*

1. Per reference (a), the subject report is submitted.

G. L. Bouts

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VAW-77 Command History

1. Command Composition and Organization Airborne Early Warning Squadron SEVEN SEVEN's (VAW-77) primary mission is to serve as a counter-drug command and control asset in our nation's war on drugs. VAW-77 is a Naval Reserve Squadron based at NAS Atlanta, Georgia, flying four Northrop Grumman E-2C Hawkeye aircraft. The command falls under the administrative control of Carrier Air Wing Reserve TWO ZERO while based at NAS Atlanta, GA, and under the operational control of Commander, Task Force FOUR ZERO while deployed. The squadron's operational commitment was 120 days per year until recently, when it was increased to a 150 day annual requirement. The area of operations while deployed has been the Caribbean. Tasking comes from Director, Joint Interagency Task Force EAST via the Tactical Support Center at Naval Station Roosevelt Roads. Squadron manning is composed of eighteen full time Training and Administration of the Reserves (TAR) officers, nineteen enlisted, twenty-six Selected Reserve Officers and ten enlisted. Maintenance on the aircraft is provided by thirty-nine Northrop Grumman contractor personnel.

2. Chronology

(1) 08-10 February 00 - Operation Bahamas Turks to Patrick AFB, Florida.

(2) 03-07 April 00 - Support of CVW-14 training at NAS Fallon, Nevada.

(3) 25-26 April 00 - Detachment in support of Space Shuttle Operations, Patrick AFB, Florida.

(4) 13 May 00 - 25 July 00 - Counter-Drug deployment to NS Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.

(5) 13-17 July 00 - Operation Passive Oversight Detachment to NAS Key West, Florida.

(6) 18 October 00 - CSAR Exercise NAS Atlanta, Georgia.

(7) 29 November 00 - 01 December, Detachment in support of Space Shuttle Operations, Patrick AFB, Florida.

(8) 05-06 December 00 - Link exercise with USS Iwo Jima, NAS Pensacola, Florida.

3. Narrative

VAW-77 provided support to Operations Bahamas Turks flying 6 sorties for a total of 34 hours. The squadron was called to provide Command and Control for CVW-14's deployment to NAS Fallon, flying 3 sorties for 25.2 hours. On two separate occasions, VAW-77 provided flights supporting Space Shuttle Operations out of Patrick AFB.

Enclosure (1)

VAW-77 was awarded the Joint Meritorious Unit Award for calendar year 1997 and the Meritorious Unit Commendation for the period of 01 October 1995 to 28 May 1998. The squadron was also awarded the Battle "E" for calendar year 1998. To date VAW-77 has flown 7566.4 hours and 1982 sorties in support of Counter-Drug operations. The squadron has been directly responsible for the seizure of 28 metric tons of cocaine and 11.5 metric tons of marijuana enroute to the United States.

4. Supporting Documents. The following enclosures are submitted as supporting documents:

- (1) Command History
- (2) CY00 Noel Davis Trophy Nomination
- (3) Diskette

From: Commanding Officer, Airborne Early Warning Squadron 77
To: Commander, Carrier Air Wing Reserve 20 (N31)

Subj: VAW-77 NOMINATION FOR THE NOEL DAVIS TROPHY, CY-00

Ref: (a) COMCVWR-20INST 3590.2

Encl: (1) 2000 NOEL DAVIS TROPHY DATA SHEET

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. The year 2000 saw the Nightwolves continue to operate among the top tier of DOD assets dedicated to our nation's war on drugs. Breaking new ground, VAW-77 successfully completed its first 75-day counter narcotics deployment and flew an unprecedented number of hours, while enduring its lowest FTS pilot manning (five) since the squadron's inception. All flight operations were conducted mishap-free despite a demanding optempo/perstempo.
3. Additionally, VAW-77 flew multiple AIC missions with Air Force, Air National Guard, Marine, and Navy fighter assets, emphasizing current joint tactics and procedures in preparation for CVW-20 Air Wing detachment to Fallon, NV.

<u>OPERATION</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
OPBAT	Patrick, AFB	08-10Feb	6	33.6
CVW-14 DET	NAS Fallon	03-07Apr	3	25.2
Shuttle Ops	Patrick, AFB	25-26Apr	2	3.8
CD Ops	NSRR	13May-25Jul	227	889.9
Passive Oversight	NAS Key West	13-17Jul	6	18.8
CSAR-Ex	NAS Atlanta	18Oct	1	2.8
Shuttle Ops	Patrick AFB	29Nov-01Dec	2	4.0
Iwo Jima Link-ex	NAS Pensacola	05-06Dec	2	8.1

4. The Nightwolves have met each operational commitment with enthusiasm and professionalism. Having assumed the Counter Narcotics Model Manager role this year from Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center, VAW-77 is undoubtedly the premiere naval squadron in the nation's war on drugs. Their efforts are most deserving of the recognition afforded by the Noel Davis Award.

B. P. CUTCHEN

Enclosure (2)